Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-40 were previously presented. Claims 24-40, which are withdrawn from consideration as a result of a previous restriction requirement and election, are canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-7 and 21-23 are also canceled, without prejudice. Claims 1, 8-10, 18 and 19 are amended. Claims 41-46 are added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 1, 8-20 and 41-46 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-20 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 7 depends directly from claim 1. Claim 1 is amended to include all limitations of claim 7, and claim 7 is canceled. Claims 9/1, 10, 12, 14 and 16 depend (or are amended to depend) directly or indirectly from claim 1. New claims 41-43, which correspond to the subject matter of dependent claims 18-20, are added and also depend from claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1, 9/1, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 41-43 are now in allowable form.

Claim 8, which depends directly from claim 1, is amended to include all limitations of claim 1. Claims 9/8, 11, 13, 15, 17 depend directly or indirectly from claim 8. New claims 44-46, which correspond to the subject matter of dependent claims 18-20, are added and also depend from claim 8. Accordingly, claims 8, 9/8, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 44-46 are now in allowable form.

Claim 18, which depends directly from claim 1, is amended to include all limitations of claim 1. Claims 19 (which is amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112) and 20 depend from claim 18. Accordingly, claims 18-20 are now in allowable form.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 112

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as indefinite because of the relative term "high saturation magnetization". In response, claim 19 is amended to delete "high saturation", so that only "magnetization material", which

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is a definite term, is now recited. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC 112 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

Claims 1-6 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Thoma (US 5,569,523). Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 21-23 are further rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Sugita (US 5,534,324).

As discussed above, claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 7, rendering its rejection moot. Claims 2-6 and 21-23 are canceled, without prejudice, rendering their rejections moot.

Conclusion

This application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any issues that remain after entry of this amendment. Any fees due with this response may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: December 30, 2005

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